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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6711
INFO RUCNCOM/EC CARICOM COLLECTIVE
RUMIAAA/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 KINGSTON 000761

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

PASS TO GUSTAV MONITORING GROUP
STATE FOR WHA/CAR (ACADIEUX) (VDEPIRRO)
WHA/EPSC (MROONEY)
S/ES - O
DSCC
DS/IP/WHA
SANTO DOMINGO FOR FCS AND FAS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [AEMR](#) [ASEC](#) [EAIR](#) [ECON](#) [CASC](#) [PINR](#) [XL](#) [JM](#)
SUBJECT: JAMAICA: GUSTAV STORM SITUATION REPORT 2

REF: KINGSTON 760

WARDEN MESSAGE ISSUE

1. The Consular section has issued a Warden Message at 11AM entitled, "Tropical Storm Gustav Update - U.S. Embassy Suspends Normal Operations" to alert U.S. citizens residing in and traveling to Jamaica and the Cayman Islands that the U.S. Embassy in Kingston has suspended normal operations on August 28 because of the anticipated impact of Tropical Storm Gustav. The consular section has received very few calls from AmCits in regard to the storm.

JAMAICA

2. The ConOff deployed to Montego Bay and Consular Agent are liaising with tourist resorts on the northern coast and distributing the Warden's message that was transmitted at 11 AM today.

3. The operations center at Sangster Airport in Montego Bay said flights are still arriving and departing, but the airport will close at 4PM. The operations center at Norman Manly Airport in Kingston closed at 1 PM

CAYMAN ISLANDS

4. Cayman Government is considering a mandatory evacuation of all non-essential personnel. Post will continue to monitor these developments and report to the Gustav Monitoring Group.

- Cayman Government is working with Cayman Air, American Airlines and Delta to schedule additional flights before noon tomorrow. The airport is expected to close after the last flight on Friday, approximately 1:30p.m., weather permitting.

- We understand from the British High Commission that they have two ships near Cayman that could assist with an ordered evacuation.

- DHS Kingston is liaising with Customs and Border Protection to provide assistance to Americans and others who do not have proper travel documentation

USAID

4. OFDA is activating its regional disaster response consultant to arrive in Kingston on next available flight.

Long Lines At Kingston Gas Stations/Grocery Stores

15. Emboffs report that lines at a popular grocery store are out the door. Gas stations also have very long lines for fuel. Some stores have closed and there is heavy traffic downtown.

Embassy Personnel to Depart at 3 PM

16. Embassy personnel will depart their offices after the 2PM conference call (3PM Eastern Standard Time) to secure in their residences. Contact numbers for key personnel are included below:
- Deputy Chief of Mission, James Heg 876-631-8113 and 876-702-6466 and 876-361-1019

- Mission Disaster Relief Officer (MDRO), Sean Osner 876-631-9965 and 876-383-88905

- Consul, Ed Wehrli 876-702-6018 and 876-361-1045

- American Citizen Services Officer, Steve Brault 876-881-7681 and 876-631-3446

Embassy Expects Late Opening On August 29

17. The Embassy expects to open at 9:00 AM on Friday the 29th. All staff have been advised to make appropriate plans to be at work by 9:00. Mission management will assess conditions first thing in the morning and activate the phone tree to notify staff of any change before 8:00AM.
The management section has also worked on boarding up windows on

KINGSTON 00000761 002 OF 002

unoccupied housing units in the Powell Plaza residential building.
JOHNSON